# NEW HORIZONS

Brought to you by your Kentucky Department of Aviation

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## 2009 NATIONAL GENERAL AVIATION AWARD WINNERS NAMED

In each of the past 45 years, the General Aviation Awards program and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) have recognized a small group of aviation professionals in the fields of flight instruction, aviation maintenance, avionics, and safety for their contributions to aviation, education, and flight safety. This awards program is a cooperative effort between the FAA and more than a dozen industry sponsors including NASAO. The selection process begins with local FAA Safety Team managers at Flight Standards District Offices (FSDO) and then moves on to the eight regional FAA offices. Panels of aviation professionals from within those four fields then select national winners from the pool of regional winners. Recipients of this year's national awards are Alfred Joseph "Lucky" Louque of Chatfield, Texas, Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) of the Year; Arlynn Marine McMahon, Versailles, Kentucky, Certificated Flight Instructor (CFI) of the Year; Paul Jerome "Jerry" Stooksbury of Fort Collins, Colorado, Avionics Technician of the Year; and Kent Blair Lewis of Keller, Texas, FAA Safety Team Representative of the Year. Previously, this award was the Aviation Safety Counselor (ASC) of the Year. The FAA administrator will present the national awards in July during a "Theater in the Woods" program at EAA AirVenture 2009 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Please help us congratulate Kentucky's own Arlynn Marine McMahon!

Mark your calendars: The **2009 Kentucky Aviation Conference** will once again be in Bowling Green, Kentucky at the Holiday Inn University Plaza on August 26-28. This past September the conference included a tour through the National Corvette Museum and an underground boat tour at Lost River Cave and Valley.





### Guard "Wellness Check" Saves Couple From Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

By 1st Lt. Kyle Key and Capt. Dale Greer
Kentucky National Guard
A Reprint from the 2009 National Guard Bureau

HARDINSBURG, Ky., (2/1/09) -- Airmen from the Kentucky Air National Guard, working in conjunction with local fire officials here, saved an elderly couple from carbon monoxide poisoning during a door-to-door wellness check in this Breckenridge County community.

Staff Sgt. Jason Scharf, a chaplain's assistant in the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing, and Staff Sgt. Thomas Moses of the 123rd Maintenance Squadron, knocked on the door of an elderly couple's residence to determine if they needed assistance following the devastating winter storms.

While speaking with the Airmen, the wife appeared confused and disoriented. She also mentioned that her husband had been complaining of nausea.

After she provided an incorrect address for her home, Scharf and Moses suspected possible carbon monoxide poisoning and asked Hardinsburg Fire Department firefighter Darren Voyles to conduct a carbon monoxide test. Jerry Martin, chief of the Hardinsburg City Fire Department, said the test confirmed a positive reading of 72 parts-per-million of carbon monoxide in the couple's home. Martin said that even 35 parts-per-million can be a lethal amount.

"I don't think they would have lived if we hadn't found them," said Martin, who attributed the poisonings to a faulty gas furnace. "That's a pretty high carbon monoxide level."

The couple was taken by ambulance to Breckinridge Memorial Hospital in Hardinsburg, where they were treated for carbon monoxide poisoning and released.

Moses said he was pleased to be able to participate in the door-to-door mission, which is being staffed by 145 Kentucky Air Guardsmen.

"It's a great feeling to know that we may have saved some lives," he said.

The door-to-door home checks are part of a massive statewide disaster relief effort involving 4,600 Kentucky Army and Air National Guard members, who were mobilized in the aftermath of ice storms that left more than 700,000 homes without heat or electricity.

More than 90 of Kentucky's 120 counties were declared disaster areas.

Also, a C-130 Aircraft from the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing transported 100 Kentucky Army National Guard personnel from Lexington to Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, Ohio, to pick up 50 Humvees from the Ohio National Guard.

The Soldiers, assigned to 149th Infantry Battalion, then drove the vehicles back to Kentucky for use in relief efforts in the western part of the state.



SSgt. Thomas Moses and SSgt. Jason Scharf of the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing stand by a firetruck from the Hardinsburg City Fire Department. The Airmen along with local authorities from the fire department saved an elderly couple from carbon monoxide poisoning during a door-to-door wellness check in the Breckenridge County community.

#### **Airport Hopes Agreement with Sofcoast will Boost Economy**

By Sean Bailey / Staff Writer A January 28, 2009 Reprint from the Times Tribune in Corbin, Kentucky



With drizzle and grey skies over Williamsburg an agreement between the Williamsburg-Whitley Airport and a Corbin business was signed at the University of the Cumberlands — that some hope will help clear the economic grey skies clouding the region.

"I know it's a cold day, I knows it's a dreary day," John Surmont said to airport board members and regional government representatives. "It may actually be representative of the economic climate we find ourselves in. I will share with you that there may be gloom on the horizon, but I do believe there are sunny skies ahead for the region."

Surmont is the Chairman and CEO of Sofcoast Inc. a Corbin based information technology start-up company. Put simply Sofcoast develops hardware and software that helps link information. Sofcoast is also venturing into the unmanned arial systems (UAS) industry. UAS technology is used for small surveillance military aircraft and may be used in the future by emergency responders in disaster areas. Which is where the Williamsburg-Whitley Airport comes into play.

The agreement signed between Sofcoast will allow the company to test it's latest invention the ASAP (which stands for Affordable Stationary Arial Platform). Surmont said the company has not officially unveiled the ASAP so he couldn't go into great detail about the product — but he described the ASAP as a device that allows customers to elevate cameras and radio devices to an altitude of 500 feet on a tethered line.

"It's more akin to a balloon than it is anything else," Surmont said, "But it is not truly a balloon and we look forward to unveiling that, we are kind of keeping it under wraps."

The device could be used be emergency responders in a disaster area where radio towers have been blown over by powerful storms or earthquakes.

The agreement Sofcoast signed with the airport allows them to demonstrate their products to customers from all over the United States. Surmont said there are more than 4,000 agencies in disaster prone areas around the country. With that amount of possible customers coming to the airport, Surmont said, the airport and people of the region are sending a strong message to the burgeoning UAS industry as a whole.

Surmont said his company and airport are working with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to work out the air authorizations necessary to start tests at the airport, but getting the agreement with the airport is the first big step for the region.

"(This) is a huge first step for us is really this agreement with the Whitley County airport," Surmont said. "It sends the signal and the message that we are seriously committed to a growth industry like the unmanned systems industry..."

The Williamsburg-Whitley Airport is an ideal place for UAS customers to test and develop their equipment because of the areas relatively low air-traffic and there isn't any military restricted air space in the area, Surmont said It's also centrally located — Surmont said one of his customers said the closest environment they could find for testing was 800 miles away, until the agreement between with the airport was signed. Sofcoast's products are also made with affordability and a small town ethic in mind. Coming from the Corbin area Surmont said he feels that "Main Street, America" needs have been forgotten in American industry.

"One of our key goals is affordability," Surmont said. "If it is not easy to use and to buy it's irrelevant. Again we are focused quite frankly have been forgotten about ... I think I hold the concerns of folks from small town across the United States."

The airport is just one of the region's assets according to Surmont. Another important asset is U of C, which Surmont thank for all the support they have given his company. U of C gave the company meeting space and helping the company move to the area.

Both Corbin Mayor Willard McBurney and Williamsburg Mayor Roddy Harrison attended agreement's signing.

Both mayors praised the agreement as a big opportunity to promote both the region economically and to promote the airport.

"It's just a wonderful thing, it's going to just make us better," Mayor Harrison said. "We had a lot of people that said that you know, 'the airport is never going to be anything, that it's not going to do anything. This surely put an end to that ... I want to thank the airport for everything they've done. And welcome Sofcoast to the area."

Keith Brashear, chairman of the airport board, said the partnership will an excellent growth opportunity for the airport. The airport is in the midst of finishing up work on a new terminal building that in addition to housing airport facilities will house the county's 911 call center. Brashear said the airport will be having a ribbon cutting on April 4.

Brashear said at this point in the partnership Sofcoast will likely rent hanger space and utilize platforms for tests. There is a possibility in the future, Brashear said, if all goes well that Sofcoast could build a structure at the airport.

With the agreement signed and community leaders showing their support, Surmont talked about his love for his home in southeast Kentucky and how happy he was to be back. Surmont called Sofcoast's Senior Executive Advisor Bob Terrell a mentor and guide with his new business. Terrell, a Corbin native, moved away when he was young to work for Ford and then came home later in life. Surmont hopes there will be more people in the years to come like himself and Terrell who have left the area and come back to work.



# Kentucky Aviation Teacher Institutes

## 2009

### Teachers grades 6-12

The Kentucky Department of Aviation believes that education is the key to individual success, industry health, and local and state economies. We are dedicated to bringing aviation into the classroom of every educational institution in the Commonwealth. Evidence supports that students do better in math and science when shown a practical and interesting application for these concepts. An aircraft in flight is a laboratory packed with dynamic mathematical and physical science applications. Bottom line, what student is not fascinated with airplanes and aviation!

Rough River State Resort Park:

June 9-11

Natural Bridge State Resort Park:

June 16-18

Lake Cumberland State Resort Park:

June 23-25

To register or for more information, contact:

Paige Hankla Kentucky Department of Aviation PHankla@ky.gov or 502-564-0296

Jackie Hensley
Science Consultant
jhensley@wildblue.net or 502-223-2912

## International Women's Pilot Organization Visits Frankfort High Aviation Academy

Information from the State Journal in Frankfort, KY March 12, 2009

Members of The Ninety-Nines, an international organization of female pilots, visited Frankfort, Kentucky Saturday March 12 in hopes of inspiring girls to study aviation. "I feel like it's something that young girls in Kentucky don't know enough about," said Kaye Combs Moore, chairwoman of the Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter of The Ninety-Nines. "It's not around enough."

One endeavor bringing the joy of aviation to young adolescents, including girls, is Frankfort High's Aviation Academy. By the end of the two-year program, students can earn a private pilot's license, an aircraft technician certificate and a light sport maintenance repair certificate. There are eight students involved this spring. Students train on flight simulators and with certified pilots, take an online course, plan flights and do repair work each Saturday in the hangar at Capital City Airport.

Stephie, a first-year aviation student, spends most of her time taking the online course and working in the hangar, where she's already logged 57 hours of work. Frankfort Middle School sixth-grader Maggie Smith, 12, is too young to enroll in the aviation courses, but she and another middle schooler work weekends with the other students at the hangar.

In 2007, just over 6 percent of U.S. pilots were women, according to the FAA's Aeronautical Center. But more than 11 percent of student pilots were women "9,559 that year.

Tim Smith, chief information officer for Frankfort Independent Schools and aviation instructor, says he hopes The Ninety-Nines inspire his female students to stick to the skies. Someday the young women could have a career repairing airplanes, managing an airport or flying commercial jets, he said.

"Our meeting this weekend with The Ninety-Nines is a very important meeting to showcase how girls can pursue careers in science, math and technology," he said.

The Ninety-Nines formed in 1929 in Long Island, N.Y., and two years later elected Amelia Earhart - the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic - its first president. The group was named for its 99 charter members, but it now counts 5,500 female pilots from 35 countries.

A dental hygienist by trade, Moore, The Ninety-Nines chairwoman who lives in Lexington, got her pilot's license before she bought her first car. She met the students from Frankfort last year at an aviation conference in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. She scheduled The Ninety-Nines' March meeting at the Capital City Airport, with hopes that Frankfort's program could be a model for school districts across Kentucky.

"I've been anxious for our members to see what's going on out there," Moore said.

Several other Kentucky districts have aviation programs, including schools in Daviess County, Danville Independent, Glasgow Independent, Kenton County and Jefferson County, Smith said. Frankfort's program started three years ago. Next month, Smith hopes his students can take off from the Capital City Airport runway in the school's donated 1940 Aeronca Chief.

Stephie was sitting at lunch last year when Smith approached her with a packet of information about the aviation program. She got to take a ride in a helicopter soon after, and she was hooked. She hopes to work as a pilot in the military, or go to college and continue to fly as a civilian. "When we met some of the people at Oshkosh, they told us, "Once you get in the air, you'll always want to go back," she said. "You just can't quit."



The Aviation Museum of Kentucky (AMK) in their 14 years of existence, has reached widespread international prominence. Visitors from **80 countries** have graced the doors of AMK along with visitors from the Guernsey Islands, Tasmania, and Okinawa. If you haven't been there, you should plan a trip to-day! If you have been and liked what you saw, then you should consider sending a 10-15 yr old to the **AMK Aviation Summer Camps**. AMK is always looking for a way to offer a camp scholarship to those children who would really like to attend the camp but are unable due to monetary factors. The cost for each child is \$209.00. The Aviation Camps help fulfill a major element of the Museum's Mission—"to serve the Commonwealth with dynamic education programs, to promote the state's aviation industry, and to serve as Kentucky's focal point for the presentation of Aviation history." Aviation Camp has been held annually since 1996 and more than three thousand young people have attended camp. This year camps will be held in Lexington and Bowling Green and plans are being made for other locations as well.

Each summer the Aviation Museum offers aviation summer camps where kids ages 10-15 can learn the history of aviation, investigate the principles of flight, examine aircraft and engine design, study the technology of flight, practice on a flight simulator, learn KY's role in aviation, find information about careers in aviation, and help plan and conduct their own flight over Kentucky in a 4-seat aircraft with an FAA approved pilot.

AMK also has a new camp director, Valerie Salven. She has earned a private pilot certificate, instrument rating, and an FAA basic ground instructor certificate. She holds a B.S. degree from UK and a J.D. degree from the University of Louisville. Valerie retired in 2006 after working as a Kentucky state government attorney for 27 years. Since "retiring" Valerie has taught aeronautics in the 2006 AMK camps, and has taught several sport pilot "test prep" ground schools for AeroTech, Inc. She was appointed an FAA Safety Team (FASST) Representative in late 2007 and has taught many of the free monthly "WINGS" pilot seminars hosed by AeroTech since then. You can contact her at (859) 353-0467; or mail your scholarship contribution to the Aviation Museum of Kentucky's address provided below along with the Lexington Aviation Camp dates. Other locations and dates are to be announced at a later time.

Aviation Museum of Kentucky Blue Grass Airport 4316 Hangar Drive Lexington, KY 40510 Level 1 (ages 10-11) June 9-10 and June 16-17 Level 2 (ages 12-13) June 11-12 and June 18-19 Level 3 (ages 14-15) June 23-24

For more information: http://www.aviationky.org/summercamp.asp





#### RUSSELLVILLE – LOGAN COUNTY AIRPORT

There are several exciting things going on at the Russellville – Logan County airport. Their new Jet Fuel and Avgas tanks have been recently completed (pictured top left). There is also a new terminal building under construction (pictured top right).

In addition there is a new terminal access road and terminal building parking lot under construction. Activity on these projects will resume as soon as we get some good spring weather. This summer the airport has plans to build a new parking apron for airplanes in front of the new fuel tanks and terminal building (North Side). Long range plans are to extend the new access road to the south side of the existing hangars which will remove the auto and truck traffic from the aircraft traffic. They recently purchased land to accommodate the new road and provide for future airport expansion. A new property line fence will be built this summer on the south side of the new proposed road.

The airports 4,000' X 75' runway was re-paved with new asphalt in 2002 and a new airport layout plan was completed in 2006.

Future projects include purchasing land on the east and west ends of the runway to accommodate 500' extensions on each end to give Russellville-Logan County airport a 5000' runway. They are working with the rural fire department to have them locate a new fire substation on the airport property. This new substation will have a heated firehouse that will house a new fire truck and an emergency generator. The new facility will be a great asset to the airport and the nearby community and is projected to be completed this fall.

Steve Dilliha, airport board chairman, stated "we are thankful for the local, state and FAA support which has made all these improvements possible. This will enhance the economic development of Logan County, Russellville and surrounding communities."

# UPCOMING AOPA SAFETY SEMINARS TO FOCUS ON GPS

These two upcoming AOPA Air Safety Foundation pilot seminars will focus on GPS operations as a whole, not just individual unit-specific functions. It's no longer about a GPS unit, it's about an entire operation that includes the pilot, ATC, Flight Service, etc. The pilot should not only use GPS as a supplemental means of navigation and situational awareness, but as a method to help manage the entire flight. The seminar will start with some brief compare/contrast of specific units and how technology has evolved, and then move into meaningful tips and advice for every phase of flight: flight planning, preflight, departure, enroute and much more. We'll also discuss real-pilot "gotchas" that GPS users got themselves into due to lack of proper training, etc. You will not want to miss this seminar.

Tuesday, 28 April, 2008, 7:00 pm Northern Kentucky University Nunn Drive Highland Heights, KY Contact: Terry Bridewell (859) 572-5760

Wednesday, 29 April, 2008, 7:00 pm London-Corbin Magee Field Airport 566 Hal Rogers Drive London, KY Kentucky Department of Aviation Capital City Airport 90 Airport Road, Bldg 400 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

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#### Department of Aviation Information:

Phone: 502-564-4480 Fax: 502-564-7953

Website:

http://transportation.ky.gov/Aviation/

Newsletter Email: PHankla@ky.gov

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#### **Greater Commonwealth Aviation Division:**

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